

## ABSTRACT

The present invention involves the passing of clock information from a point where a tributary payload is mapped into a carrier to a point where a tributary payload is de-mapped from the carrier. A synchronization signal is generated at the mapping end. Rather than  
5 sending clock phase information implicitly by means of the data, as is normally the case, a value of the synchronization signal at a given time, is sent explicitly, independent from the payload data.

000120" 94621960